

Verona Sunday 6 October 2019

Piazza delle Erbe (Market Square) at 10.30

and Basilica of St Anastasia - Giusti Chapel at 15.30

(where the rudder of one of the Christian ships engaged in the battle is still preserved)



Commemoration of the soldiers and sailors who fell in the epic naval battle of Lepanto between the victorious Christian fleet of the Holy League (half of which was Venetian) and the Turkish fleet

7 October 1571 - Sunday 6 October 2019, 448th anniversary

10.00 – Arrival in Piazza delle Erbe (Market Square) of the procession of marching historical soldiers (Venetian Slavonians and Noble Guards of Verona, in eighteenth-century uniforms) from St Anastasia Square. Military drills in the Market Square.

10.30 - Piazza delle Erbe (Market Square) flag-raising ceremony with Saint Mark's banner, to the closing notes of the sacred military oratory *Juditha triumphans* (*Judith triumphant*) by Antonio Vivaldi, with the celebratory tolling of the bells of the civic tower, known as the Lamberti Tower, and the firing of salutes in honour of the fallen by the Venetian Slavonians and the Noble Guards of Verona. At the flagpole in Piazza delle Erbe (Market Square) the historic St Mark banner of Doge Domenico Contarini (hero of the war of Candia against the Turks) will be raised. This standard, measuring more than 6 meters, once flew on the Doge's galley and has recently been reproduced.

11.30 – Presentation of historical soldiers to the public with musket shots. Military drills in the Market Square.

15.30 - Basilica of St Anastasia. Giusti Chapel. Recitation of the Holy Rosary in Latin in memory of the fallen and in thanksgiving for the Christian victory of Lepanto. Inside and outside the Basilica, the Venetian Slavonians and Noble Guards of Verona, in their respective historic uniforms from the 1700s.

16.00 – St Anastasia Square, the firing of salutes in honour of the fallen.

17.00 - Piazza delle Erbe (Market Square), flag lowering ceremony with Saint Mark's banner, again to the final notes of the sacred military oratory *Juditha triumphans* (*Judith triumphant*) by Antonio Vivaldi.

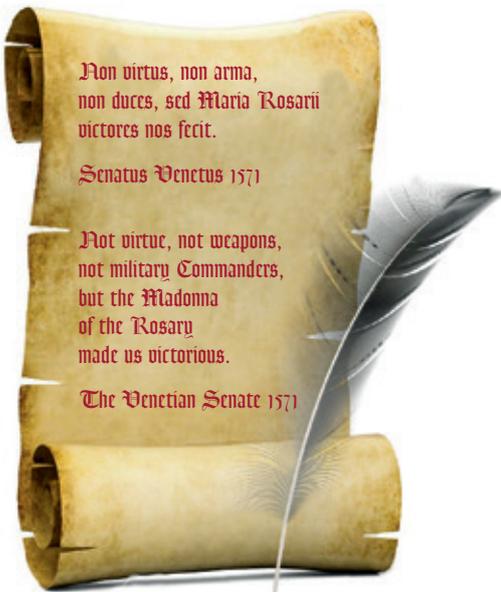


On the left: Sebastiano Venier (1496-1578) Captain General of the Sea and future Doge of Venice, he bravely faces the Turks at the battle of Lepanto. Next to him, the Saint Mark banner. Detail from a painting by Andrea Vicentino from 1603. Venice. Doge's Palace.

Below: July 1571. The fleet of the Holy League is concentrated in Messina, before facing the Muslim fleet in Lepanto. The three female figures represent the alliance between Spain, the Church and Venice. 1572, fresco by Giorgio Vasari. Vatican City. Regal Room.



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Non virtus, non arma,
non duces, sed Maria Rosarii
victores nos fecit.

Senatus Venetus 1571

Not virtue, not weapons,
not military Commanders,
but the Madonna
of the Rosary
made us victorious.

The Venetian Senate 1571



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Noble Guards of Verona - Seventh Slavonian Regiment, Colonel Nicolò Medin

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Verona, 29 September 2019 - Saint Michael the Archangel
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